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3. Acetic acid slowly added until the cherry-red color becomes brick-red. The addition of acetic acid should be accompanied with stirring, and should cease the moment the change in color is effected.

4. Filter until no trace of a precipitate remains.

If the color is not sufficiently deep, a few drops of ammonia should be added before filtering, and the solution left in an open vessel until the alkali has volatilized.

Objects may be left for twenty-four hours or more in this fluid. The deep stain should be partially removed by immersion in a mixture of water (fifty vols.), glycerine (fifty vols.), and muriatic acid (a half vol.), for a few minutes. The karyokinetic figures are thus brought out with great distinctness.

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SCIENTIFIC NEWS.

— The Entomologische Nachrichten, founded by Dr. Katter at Putbus, is now edited by Dr. F. Karsch, and published by R. Friedländer & Sohn in Berlin. It is apparently improved, and No. 1 for this year is illustrated by a plate, with two wood-cuts. Dr. Ernest writes to it from Caracas, "we have here the locust plague! *Acridium peregrinum* in immense swarms. The eggs are infested by a small hymenopter, *Scelio famelicus* Say," noticed in the second report United States Entomological Commission, 270.

— A first duplicate of the "Philip Carpenter collection" of shells, reserved by the late Dr. Carpenter for private use and study, remains in possession of his widow, Mrs. Carpenter, 241 University street, Montreal. It contains, according to a catalogue accompanying it, 4039 species. There is also one of the best duplicates of the "Mazatlan collection" of Dr. Carpenter. These collections will be disposed of on reasonable terms, more especially to any public collection or working naturalist.

— *Nature* Nov. 20th, 1884, p. 72, contains a report of the Academy of Sciences, Paris, on the depth to which sunlight penetrates the waters of Lake Geneva, by MM. H. Fol and Ed. Tarasin. From a series of experiments carried out in August and September of that year, the author concludes that light reaches a depth of 170 meters, and probably a little more, the luminosity at this point being about equal to a clear moonless night.

— The first part of a detailed and well illustrated work on the embryology of *Peripatus*, by Dr. J. Kennel, appears in the *Arbeiten aus dem Zoologisch-Zoötomischen Institute in Würzburg*. Bd. vii, Heft 2. The six folding plates are packed with illustrations which show, without undervaluing the labors of Balfour, that this memoir will be the fullest and most important yet published in the development of this exceedingly curious creature.

— Mr. A. Agassiz, the director of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, has distributed to correspondents in this country M.

Perrier's elaborate memoir on the star-fishes of the "Blake," dredged in the Antillean seas and Gulf of Mexico, under the direction of Mr. Agassiz. It appears in "Nouvelles Archives du Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, June 16, 1884.

For more than twenty-five years Professor J. V. Carus has been collecting materials for a general prodromus or preliminary view of the fauna of the Mediterranean sea. The first part has appeared, containing the Cœlenterates, Echinoderms and worms.

— Further experiments with the new anæsthetic, cocaine, have been made by M. Vulpian, and laid before the French Academy. Researches on snails and crawfishes show that it is less efficacious in the case of invertebrate than vertebrate animals.

— Of the Australian ants, *Formica rufinigra* is said to be the most numerous, bold, and destructive. It destroys the web of certain caterpillars, and wriggles them out, when they fall a prey to a host of attendant warrior ants.

— The death is reported of Mr. Alexander Murray, formerly director of the Geological Survey of Newfoundland, and author of a treatise on the geology of that island. His latest paper was a most interesting one on the glacial scratches of Newfoundland.

— Edward Rüppell died at Frankford, Dec. 10, at the age of 90 years. He was an explorer, geographer, and naturalist, his researches and travels having been made in Northeastern Africa and Arabia Petrea.

— We regret to be obliged to announce the sudden death, in January, by pneumonia, of Mr. Augustus Meisel, the well-known lithographer of Boston, who has produced most excellent zoölogical illustrations.

— M. Searles V. Wood, well known for his essays on English tertiary and quarternary deposits, died December last.

— The death is announced of Mr. Alfred Tylor, a well-known writer on geological and anthropological subjects.

— D. A. Keferstein, well known as a lepidopterist, died at Erfurt, Nov. 28.

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PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS OF NORTH AMERICA.—This body met at Washington, in the lecture room of the National Museum, on Jan. 29th. The following papers were read:

29th, A. M.

1. Charles S. Minot. A new cabinet for microscopical specimens.
2. —A new feeding trough.
3. —An apparatus for calculating intervals of days rapidly.
4. S. H. Gage. The use of Müller's fluid for preserving the dark colors of animals.
5. —The use of collodion for protecting the rubber rings of museum jars.
6. —Glass bulb canulæ for the injection of silver nitrate, gold chloride, etc.